

## Increased Safety Measures Coming to HBCSD

May 7, 2018

During this past year with the passage of Measure Q in the Huntington Beach City School District we have talked a lot about the changes that are coming. HBCSD will be transforming all of our classrooms to 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environments with an increase in technology which enhance classroom environments to better engage and educate our students. However, there will also be changes to our schools in the area of safety as well.

When we return from summer break, each of our schools will have a new sign-in system in the office that will require visitors/parents to show a picture I.D. that will be scanned and submitted through a minor background check to make sure that individual should be on a school campus. Once the I.D. is verified, the machine will then print a one-day badge that all visitors on campus will be required to wear. Teachers and staff will also be wearing badges so visitors and staff will know they belong on campus. A single point of entry will also be implemented at our sites in order to help facilitate the sign-in procedure. Therefore, you will begin to see fencing go up at many of our schools. HBCSD is also adding more cameras to each campus so staff can watch for issues on campus that need to be addressed.

HBCSD is also committed to developing stronger School Site Safety Plans and having teachers hold grade level appropriate discussions and drills designed to help remind students what our plan of action is should any change to the regular school day become necessary. Our District Safety Committee is also touring school sites to observe drills and review safety plans.

At times, change is difficult and for those parents who are used to just walking on campus to drop off a lunch or an assignment; these changes will now require a bit more time and effort to enter the school. In every Huntington Beach City School we depend on our fantastic team of volunteers who work in classrooms and assist each school through our fantastic PTSA teams. You will see these volunteers at each of our schools assisting in the learning that is happening. We will continue to depend on volunteers and still wish to see those eager volunteers on each campus. We would also like to remind all parents and visitors that the best course of action to keep our schools safe is to “see something, and say something”. While on or around a school campus if you see something that just looks out of place or unsafe, we encourage you to call the school office and report what you see. Working together with positive changes we will continue to make HBCSD an elite school district in Orange County.

Gregg Haulk, Superintendent  
Huntington Beach City School District